Claims Status

1. Cancelled

2. (Currently Amended) A fire ant trap for eradicating of fire ants in a mound projecting above the ground, said fire ant trap comprising: a cover member having an exterior wall forming a downwardly opening cavity and terminating with a peripheral rim for engaging and surrounding a ~~the~~ periphery of the mound; a plurality of stake members carried on said exterior wall and moveable between a raised stowed position and a lowered position for embedding in the ground to secure the cover member at the mound; releasable means cooperating between said stake members and said cover member for maintaining said stowed position; an opening at the top of the cover member communicating with said cavity; a tubular member having a center passage extending through said opening, said tubular member having an end portion having a plurality of passages to said center passage and terminating with a beveled tip portion; coupling means cooperating between said tubular member and said cover member to provide for lowering and rotating said tubular member from an upper position to a lower position during which said beveled end penetrates and mechanically disrupts the upper portion of the mound; a dispensing opening in said tubular member above said cover member for receiving an eradicating agent effective against fire ant ~~art~~ for dispersing through said center passage to the end portion of the tubular member for access by fire ants in the mound; and a cover ~~member~~ for sealing the dispensing opening.

3. (Currently Amended) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 2 wherein said coupling means includes a threaded bore at said opening and a threaded section on said tubular member inter-engaging with said threaded bore and

wherein said tubular member is concurrently axially moved and said tip portion is rotated upon rotation of said tubular member ~~and a concurrently axially moving and rotating said tip portion upon rotation of said tubular member~~.

4. (Original) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 3 wherein said dispensing opening is formed at an upwardly opening cavity at an upper end of said tubular member.

5. (Original) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 4 wherein said cover ~~member~~ includes a plug section engaging the surfaces of the cavity for sealing said dispensing opening.

6. (Currently Amended) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 2 wherein said threaded section ~~member~~ is formed at an annular collar surrounding said opening.

7. (Currently Amended) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 2 ~~1~~ wherein said beveled tip portion is located above said peripheral rim in said upper position.

~~The fire ant trap as recited in claim 1 wherein said beveled tip portion is located above said peripheral rim in said lower position.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 2 ~~1~~ wherein said releasable means comprises a hook and loop fastening assembly.

9. (Currently Amended) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 2 ~~1~~ wherein each of said stake members ~~stakes~~ comprises an elongated cylindrical pointed shank having an enlarged head at said upper end.

10. (Currently Amended) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 9 including a release handle slidably disposed on said shank member and manually operable for raising said stake member ~~the state~~ from said lowered position.

11. (Original) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 10 wherein said rim includes an outwardly extending annular flange having apertures for guiding said shanks of said stakes in movement between said raised stowed position and said lowered position.

12. (Original) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 11 including guide means projecting outwardly from said cover member above said flange for guiding said shanks.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for eradicating fire ants at a mound projecting above ground, said method comprising the steps of: placing an enclosure over said mound having a downwardly opening cavity and a peripheral rim engaging a periphery of the mound; mechanically attaching said enclosure to said ground; inserting an elongated tubular auger assembly having a central axial passage and a beveled tip into said cavity through an opening formed in a top portion of said enclosure; axially downwardly shifting ~~and concurrently rotating~~ said beveled tip into a top portion of said mound and thereafter rotating said tip to disturb said mount to thereby attract the fire ants thereto; dispensing a fire ant eradicating agent into said passage to said tip; sealing said passage; and removing said enclosure from said mound after eradicating said fire ants.

14. (New) The fire ant trap as recited in claim 2 wherein said beveled tip portion is located above said peripheral rim in said lower position.

15. (New) A fire ant trap for applying a fire ant control agent at a mound projecting above the ground, said fire ant trap comprising: a thin walled enclosure having surfaces defining a downwardly opening cavity terminating at a lower rim for engaging the periphery of the mound; projecting means for embedding in the ground and for attaching said enclosure at said mound; an opening in a top portion of said enclosure

surrounded by an annular collar; a tubular member having an axial passage slidably disposed in said opening, said tubular member having an upper end and an angled lower end, said tubular member being movable between a raised position entirely within said cavity in said enclosure wherein said lower end is above said lower rim and said mound and a lower position wherein said lower end is within said cavity and penetrates said mound; threaded coupling means cooperating between said upper send of said tubular member and said collar adjacent said lower position such that rotation of said auger assembly thereat concurrently axially advances and rotates said lower end into engagement with said mound thereby disturbing said mound and attracting the fire ants; filling means connected with said upper end of said tubular member communicating with said passage for receiving fire ant eradicating agent and delivering the agent for distribution at said lower end of said tubular member at the mound; and means associated with said filling means for delivering the agent to said passage and closing said passage to prevent escape of the fire ants therethrough.